

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED

Washington Items.
The Joint Congressional Library Committee has decided not to investigate the accounts of Librarian Spafford, against whom charges of irregularities were made a year ago.
Consul-General Frederick C. Penfield at Cairo, Egypt, informed the Marine Hospital Service, through the State Department, that Egypt had been officially declared free of cholera. Not a case had been reported in the ten days prior to the date on which he wrote.
A verdict was given against Prince Yuribide in his suit to secure readmission into the Metropolitan Club, in Washington, from which he had been expelled.
The Venezuelan Boundary Commission is preparing the vast mass of evidence collected by it for publication.
President Cleveland appointed John Henry Rogers to be Judge of the District Court for the Western District of Arkansas.
The Secretary of the Treasury has dismissed William B. Ewing, Jr., for collecting political assessments from Government employees in violation of law. Ewing was a clerk in the Treasury Department.
Julius M. Hest, a clerk in the office of the Adjutant-General, was arrested at the residence of his father, Mr. Hest, in New York City, on a charge of collecting assessments from Government employees in violation of law. Hest was a clerk in the Treasury Department.
The President appointed Charles C. Nott, of New York, to be Chief Justice of the Court of Claims, in place of Charles B. Hovey, of Mississippi, who was appointed to be Chief Justice of the Court of Claims. Nott was born in Schenectady, N. Y., in 1827.
Senator Proctor said in Washington that neither Mark H. Smith nor himself would be in the Cabinet to be announced by Major McKinley.
The Comptroller of the Currency has received information of the failure of the Dakota National Bank of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The bank has a capital of \$50,000, and at the time of the failure it had a surplus of \$20,000 and liabilities amounting to \$220,000, exclusive of stock. Bank Examiner Finner has been pined in charge.
Domestic.
The steamer John E. Moore sank on Raccoon Shoal, New York Harbor, but in shallow water, so that the 150 persons on board, who took refuge on the top deck, were easily rescued.
A blizzard raged in North Dakota. Business was suspended and railroad traffic was at a standstill.
The Brown University football team defeated the Carlisle Indian School eleven in New York City by the score of 42 to 12.
Walter B. Russell, a student of Brown University, was unseated from a train when he was caught in a scuffle and was killed.
Prohibitionists in the town of Alexis, Ill., blew up with dynamite a liquor saloon which was operated without a license.
The United States gunboat Newport was launched at Bath, Me., in the presence of a large crowd. The oldest daughter of the late Commodore Perry, victor of Lake Erie, Miss La Farge, the daughter of John La Farge, the well known artist of New York City, christened the vessel.
Alfred Daniels, alias Frank Williams, charged with burning J. D. Stringfellow's barn some months since, and who was arrested in Jacksonville, Fla., was taken from the custody of a deputy sheriff.
Professor Withams found no knooknot drops in the stomach of Frank P. Abuckley, the Denver mine owner found dead at Highbridge Heights, N. Y., last week.
Professor Benjamin Apthorp Gould, the distinguished astronomer, died at his residence in Cambridge, Mass., at the age of seventy-two. He was preparing to leave his house in the evening when he fell down stairs and received injuries from which he died two hours later.
Three men were fatally shot and several others more or less seriously wounded in a drunken riot at Durban, Durban is a small mining village near the town of Durban. There is a large colony of foreigners there who work in the mines.
G. W. Nelson, leading tenor in the choir at Thaumastown, Tenn., died at the First Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tenn., dropped dead in the choir. Apoplexy was the cause of his death.
Henry A. Jones, known as the "Lightning Calculator," died at Southington, Conn., aged sixty-six years. He could add in an instant columns of figures and multiply as quickly as he could pass his hand over the page.
John S. Rankin, a wealthy timber dealer of Detroit, Mich., died at his residence in William Island, Georgia Bay, and it was feared Thomas J. Austin, his companion, was drowned.
The gun trial of the United States battleship Oregon was highly successful, according to reports made at San Francisco.
By the overturning of a gasoline lamp, an explosion occurred at the residence of J. A. Walker, Minneapolis, Minn. Mrs. Walker, her daughter Mabel, aged thirteen, and the domestic, Mary Overland, were probably fatally burned.
J. Pierpont Morgan, Kidder, Peabody & Co., and others obtained control of the West End Railroad in Boston with the reported intention of changing it to an elevated road.
Major McKinley and Garrett A. Hobart sent letters to the meeting of the Pennsylvania Peace Society expressing their gratification at the settlement of the Venezuelan dispute.
The Rev. James Miller, of Bloomington, Ill., was murdered, mysteriously, in Decatur, Ill.
The Silver Democratic State Committee of Kentucky decided to continue its contest for the electoral vote of the State.
W. J. Bryan visited Denver, Col., and was received with enthusiasm. He spoke several times to large crowds.
J. K. Parks, of Boston, the organizer of the Nati Trust, admitted that the combination had practically been dissolved.
Chauncey M. Depew spoke before the Vermont Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in Montpelier, Vt.
The annual Live Stock Show was opened at Madison Square Garden, New York City.
After an absence of thirty years Richard Jordan returned to his aged parents at Yonkers, N. Y.
A murder and suicide near Mayfield, Ky., is reported. T. B. Baker and his wife separated some time ago, and Mrs. Baker was placed in the custody of a friend. It is supposed this provoked the tragedy. Baker, after killing his wife, turned the pistol upon himself, shooting himself through the heart.
George W. G. Ferris, inventor and builder of the Ferris Wheel, which was exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair, died in Pittsburgh, Penn.
Foreign Notes.
A dispatch from Manila says that the Spanish troops under Major Arzaga have defeated a body of Philippine insurgents, whose losses and killed in wounded were upward of 400 men.
Thanksgiving Day was observed by Americans in Berlin, Germany, by a grand banquet at the Kaiserhof. Two hundred and thirty guests were present. Ambassador Hill, who presided, made a brief speech, in which he testified to the importance of the parts German-Americans had played in the history of the United States. He then called for three cheers for Emperor William, which were given with hearty good will.

WAR DEPARTMENT WORK.

Secretary Lamont Makes His Annual Report.
STATE OF OUR FIGHTING FORCE.
Coast Defenses Being Improved With Great Rapidity—More Artillery Needed—Work at West Point is Highly Commended—New Ideas About National Guard Estimates for the Year.
WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—Secretary Lamont's report of the operations of the War Department for 1896 shows total expenditures aggregating \$51,833,272, of which \$13,505,968 was for pay of the army, \$1,438,286 for subsistence, \$2,867,464 for season's defense and \$17,811,560 for river and harbor improvements.
The unexpended appropriation turned back into the Treasury at the end of last year was \$1,775,033, making, with two previous years, more than \$5,000,000.
Much of the report is devoted to a detailed exhibit of the work accomplished and now under way on the coast defenses.
On July 1, 1893, of our modern defense by the Endicott project, modified by the Engineer Corps, is a fair way to be carried out, providing batteries and mines that are calculated to give a complete defense to the coast that could result in a victory.
Since the adoption of the present coast defense scheme \$25,457,163 has been appropriated, and the work is well advanced.
The armament of troops with the new machine guns was completed in May, and the army is turning out 125 rifles or cartridges per day. All the ammunition for the new guns is supplied with smokeless powder of American manufacture.
But little change has occurred in the water levels of the Great Lakes during the past year, and no water has yet been drawn for use in the Chicago Drainage Canal, no further can be given as to the probable effect of abstracting 10,000 cubic feet of water per second from Lake Michigan.
Secretary Daniel S. Lamont.
Importance of providing reliable data concerning the probable effect of this and the opening of connecting channels is urged upon Congress.
The army consists of 25,426 officers and men, or 254 below the legal maximum. The effective field strength on October 31 was 23,382.
Secretary Lamont calls attention to the fact that the number of troops was never better than now. The trials by general court-martial decreased fifteen per cent. during the year, and never has the health of the troops been so good.
Under the new recruiting system 8498 men were enlisted last year, one-half at garrisons and one-half at West Point. The number of recruits in 1893 numbered 3778, in 1894 10,681 and last year 12,555.
The excellence in military exercises of the corps of cadets at West Point has never been surpassed, and the corps numbers 322, the largest number ever attending at one time.
The thirty-five army officers assigned to duty with the National Guard report steady improvement. Camps of instruction were held at Fort Slocum and in several instances regular troops were equipped with the militia. The National Guard aggregated 138,700 officers and men. To maintain this force the States appropriate \$2,850,000 and the Government \$400,000.
Investigation this year has shown serious deficiencies in the arms and equipment of the militia. Secretary Lamont recommends that the Springfield rifle, caliber forty-five, be issued to the militia. He also recommends that the thirty-five army officers assigned to duty with the National Guard report steady improvement. Camps of instruction were held at Fort Slocum and in several instances regular troops were equipped with the militia. The National Guard aggregated 138,700 officers and men. To maintain this force the States appropriate \$2,850,000 and the Government \$400,000.
Floods in Martinique.
Advices from Fort de France, capital of the island of Martinique, to the effect that heavy rains throughout the island have caused all the streams to overflow their banks and a immense damage has been done to property. A number of persons in the interior, all of whom are believed to have been African, have been drowned.
The Marblehead at Home.
The United States cruiser Marblehead came into the Port of New York from a two-month cruise in European waters. Her presence in the Turkish port of Messina led to the release of an American missionary, the Rev. Mr. Knapp.
Dollar Wheat in Sight.
May wheat has the call on the Exchange at St. Louis, Mo. It is a right to break a record, and has touched 92 1/2 cts., the highest figure since 1891. Unless prevailing conditions are upset, dollar wheat will be a reality.
Cash wheat in the New York market bumped a dollar. No. 2 red, the standard grade, "free on board," got up to 95 1/2 cts. a bushel, or one-half cent above any previous price. The closing quotation was 95 1/2 cts.
Thirty Killed in a Mine.
A dispatch from Brescia says that thirty persons were killed in a colliery explosion at Zengorze, Russian Poland.

GEORGIA'S NEW SENATOR.

Alexander S. Clay Elected to Succeed General John B. Gordon.
Alexander Stephens Clay, who has just been elected to the United States Senate by the Legislature of Georgia, was a poor boy, the son of a poor farmer. He paid for his education with the money he earned, and by the same process educated himself in the law. On his father's side Mr. Clay is of Scotch descent. His great-grandfather came from Scotland in the middle of the last century and settled in Virginia. His grandfather came to Georgia and lived on a farm in Washington County. His father was a Confederate soldier and was killed in the Georgia politics for many years. In 1884 Mr. Clay was elected to the Legislature and his ability was at once recognized. In 1888 he was unanimously Speaker of the lower House. Mr. Clay is a free trader and a silver man.

ALEXANDER S. CLAY.

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CLEVELAND'S NEW HOME.

The President Buys a Colonial Mansion in Princeton, N. J.
President Cleveland has decided to make Princeton, N. J., his permanent home after March 4, 1897. Professor West returned to Princeton from Washington, D. C., and authorized the following statement for publication:
"President Cleveland has purchased the residence of Mrs. Sidel, on Bayard avenue, Princeton, and will make Princeton his permanent home soon after his inauguration. His term as President. Negotiations looking to this end have been in progress about three weeks and were consummated to-day by the purchase of the property.
"A number of reasons have attracted President Cleveland to Princeton. The President's father was educated for the Presbyterian ministry there. The quiet and independent home life of the place, its healthful climate, and the fact that it is a town of a university station, as well as other reasons, have been influential in forming his decision.
The Sidel mansion, purchased by President Cleveland, is considered to be the finest piece of residence in Princeton. The house is a two-story stone building, in old colonial style. There are steps on three sides, with five pillars in front. The building is forty-seven feet square, and there are five windows in front. A beautiful drive reaches around two sides of the house. The whole property is well shaded by trees. It is surrounded by a fine lawn. The price paid for the house and the land was \$50,000. The town and college are elated over the news.

WEYLER AGAIN A-FIELD.

In Personal Command of 35,000 Men He Starts After Maceo.
HAVANA, Cuba. (By Cable).—Captain General Weyler left on the gunboat Legazpi at midnight for Matanzas to resume personal command of the military operations in Pinar del Rio Province.
General Canales Ruiz, Chief of Cavalry, Dr. Justo Martinez, of the hospital corps, and various staff officers are accompanying him by rail for Matanzas to join General Weyler, with his 35,000 men, in the field.
Indications point to an active resumption of operations and the continued capture of the rebels. More Havana volunteers have been ordered into active service for Pinar del Rio, and are leaving Havana daily by rail for Matanzas.
The military hospital reports show 10,853 Spanish soldiers ill in Havana alone. The wounded are not included. Fourteen officers and 483 privates, all sick, arrived by rail from Cayahabes and Artemisa. The thirty-five army officers assigned to duty with the National Guard report steady improvement. Camps of instruction were held at Fort Slocum and in several instances regular troops were equipped with the militia. The National Guard aggregated 138,700 officers and men. To maintain this force the States appropriate \$2,850,000 and the Government \$400,000.
Shaved Men For a Living.
Susan Ashley, once a Rich Woman, Buried at Westfield, Mass.
Susan Ashley was buried at Westfield, Mass., a few days ago, so quietly that few people knew about the plain little funeral. Yet when she was born there, forty years ago, the news had been sent out that a daughter had been born to the Ashleys, one of the richest and most influential families in Massachusetts. Her mother died, leaving her \$50,000.
She married J. C. White, once United States Minister to Brazil, and spent the honeymoon in Europe, living in luxury and being presented to the Queen. Then husband and wife became estranged and separated, she resuming her maiden name and going to Chicago with her daughter. Her fortune was swept away by bad investments, and to make a living the ex-socialite leader opened a shop on Madison street and sold cheap goods. She died at her home in Westfield, Mass., a few days ago, so quietly that few people knew about the plain little funeral.

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Campanini, the Tenor, Dead.

Italo Campanini, the tenor singer, who was well known in the United States, died near Parma, Italy, a few days ago. He was born at Parma in 1816.

Woman Baffles a Mob.

A woman in Richmond, Mo., held a mob at bay which was bent on lynching two men confined in a jail on the charge of murder. The woman was the Sheriff's wife.

Strange Weather Conditions.

Blizzards were reported in Minnesota, the two Dakotas, Oregon and Manitoba. In Mississippi, Texas and Kentucky destructive winds were blowing, and in almost every warmth. Kansas had a modified blizzard. At the same time, in New York City summer-like weather prevailed. November 27 was the hottest of that date on record, the top point registered being 71.

Philistines Tried.

The Competitor Philistines were quietly tried by court-martial in Havana, Cuba, in spite of official protests from the United States.

AFRO-AMERICAN DOINGS.

A BUDGET OF ITEMS CULLED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

A White Man's Views of a Colored Man's Orphanage.

"W. W. H." in an appeal to the people of Charleston, S. C., the South, the North and the world at large, has the following to say concerning the Colored Orphanage of the above city:

"I am a white man free from all touch of race prejudice, a man who looks upon his fellow-men of every nationality solely from an individual standpoint and recognizes merit wherever he meets it, regardless of 'race, color, or previous condition of servitude.' Indeed, with me, a man who proves himself superior to adverse circumstances and makes a success of himself in spite of his environment, is entitled to more appreciation and respect than one who has merely maintained his hold upon favorable surroundings and made the best of them. As with a man, so with a people. That nation which has struggled up from the lowest plane of existence to a comparative degree of culture and refinement is worthy of more glory and applause, more sympathy and good will than one which occupies a loftier height by merely pushing to the utmost more advantageous conditions. There is no doubt that the Negro race deserves more credit today than any other nation in the world. They started from the lowest plane of humanity amid the wild jungle of the least known continent on the globe, and many of the tribes in Africa have not, as yet, risen above the condition of their fathers. But it is the American Negroes to whom I particularly refer. Not only did they once dwell in African barbarism like their brethren across the sea, but they have passed through a long, long process of servitude and bondage calculated to deprive them of every degree of manhood and self-reliance which they possessed in their native land where they were at least free if unenlightened, uninformed. Today they stand upon a pyramid, largely of their own erection, where the lowliness, ignorance and superstition of their past, and even proudly, yet humbly, challenge all history to produce the parallel of their achievement. They have crossed the Red Sea into Liberty; they are nearing the end of their arduous journey through the Wilderness of Zion, and their advance guard can already catch glimpses of the Promised Land of usefulness to the world and property for themselves into which they will enter by and by—not as the rival of the white man, but as his enemy, but as his friend, his co-operator, his co-worker in the uplifting of the world. Does not the Negro of America, then, demand our sympathy and support more than any other people on earth? Certainly the white men of the South will not deny this when they reflect that it was largely the labor of the Negro in the ante-bellum years which made possible the wealth, culture and refinement of our section to-day! We send vast sums of money abroad, annually, to help educate and redeem sinful and illiterate foreigners (which is well) who can never yield us anything in return except in an indirect and general way. And yet we neglecting to a culpable extent the claims upon our bounty of a people nearer home, a people to whom we owe gratitude for labor in the past and to whom we owe reparation for enforced servitude through centuries now happily dead—a people whose interest is ours, whose affection and whose trade open an art way for the physical, moral and spiritual enlightenment of these unfortunate, destitute and most miserable beings; it is the Jenkins Orphanage, 20 Franklin street, Charleston, S. C., founded in 1891 by Rev. D. J. Jenkins, its present president, and it is now undergoing the severest financial ordeal it has had to contend with since its inception. It may have to succumb. If you will come to its help, a calamity will be averted. If you could see the boys and girls at their studies in the schoolroom and observe the progress they are making and the skill and patient, painstaking fidelity of the teachers, you would not allow it to be sacrificed if your assistance would uphold it. If you could hear the children singing in a body, religious songs at the morning devotional exercises of the school, or if you could note the polite, courteous, gentle bearing of the orphans toward one another at all times and under all circumstances, you would be sure to say in your heart, 'This institution is a blessing to the land; it shall not die. I will help keep it alive.' And you would immediately perform the noblest act of your life by contributing to its support."

REPUBLICAN PURPOSES.

As Outlined by Gen. Grosvenor, of Ohio, in an Interview.

HE IS NEAR TO WM. MCKINLEY.

The Closeness of Their Relations Gives Added Importance to His Objections to the Dingley Bill—Extra Session Talk.

The Commercial-Tribune, of Cincinnati, O., prints a long article signed by General Grosvenor, Congressman from the Eleventh Ohio District, in which he outlines his views as to the policy of the Republican party. He says in the outset that he expresses his own views and does not undertake to commit or represent any other member of the party than himself. Furthermore, he does not even consent to lend himself to the views should the majority of his Republican associates on the Ways and Means committee dissent from his views.
"The question of the hour, it seems to me, so far as it relates to economic legislation, is the Fifty-fourth Congress in its closing session to pass the Dingley bill, or should that measure be allowed to perish and the Republican party move forward to the discharge of the high duty imposed upon it by the result of the last election?"
In these questions General Grosvenor takes the position of the Republican party. He says the Dingley bill could be passed for temporary relief and be followed immediately after the fourth of March in an extra session of Congress by the passage of a proper permanent measure, yet the passage of that tentative bill hinder and obstruct the passage of a proper measure, and should be abandoned. He criticizes the Dingley bill for proposing an unduly low duty, which would deprive the Government of a great deal of revenue and would be a great detriment to the Wilson bill and it should be remedied in future legislation.
Other reasons for the defeat of the Dingley bill is that it does not meet the requirements of the St. Louis platform as a protective measure.
He says every Republican member of the Ways and Means Committee has been elected and these members "during the time which is to close the session of the House in December and the fourth day of March, can formulate a tariff bill, predicted upon the principles of the McKinley law, with schedules adapted to existing conditions, perfected and all ready for passage within ten days after the meeting of the Senate in the fall of 1897, and then it is a question of whether the Republican party in the Senate can be passed into a law and be ready for enforcement by the first of May."

NO RATE WAR JUST NOW.

President Hoffman Says It is Premature to Talk of It, but It is Possible.

A renewal of the rate war from Baltimore to the South is only a question of a short time unless the management of the Seaboard Air Line system and the Southern Railway adjust the differences that exist between them, is generally believed in Baltimore. When President Hoffman, of the Seaboard Company, was questioned in reference to the prospective renewal of hostilities, he would not commit himself. He intimated, however, that the Seaboard would begin slashing rates again if the Southern persisted in its present policy toward the Seaboard; that is, denying the latter through passenger service between New York and New Orleans, and running the line of steamers between Baltimore and Norfolk in opposition to the Bay Line, which is owned by the Seaboard Air Line.

Proposed Only Twice.

Beethoven never married. But it was from no defect of sensibility that the tribulations were distributed among many successive housekeepers were not heaped upon the devoted head of a wife. If love be a disease, Beethoven was always ill, or at best, but convalescent. No less than forty ladies, save four, has he immortalized by his dedications to them. To Bettina von Arnim—Goethe's Bettina—for whom he long cherished a hopeless passion, he once said, after trying over a composition which he has just written, "I made that for you; you inspired me with it. If I should ever write in your eyes" and this is but a specimen of the gallantries to which he was addicted.

Twice at Least He Proposed—on one occasion to a lady who, as he found to his mortification was already the fiancée of his friend Hummel. That marriage would have saved him from a good many worries, is certain enough; for it must be allowed that, as Emil Naumann delicately puts it, he "did not possess any aptitude for household management."—Blackwood's Magazine.

THE WEEKLY GAZETTE.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

One square, one insertion.....	\$ 50
One square, one month.....	1 00
One square, two months.....	2 00
One square, three months.....	3 00
One square, six months.....	5 00
One square, one year.....	8 00
Liberal contracts made for larger advertisements.	

AGRICULTURE.

FOR STORING FRUIT.

The apple harvest brings up the subject of the proper disposal of the fruit when gathered from the trees. The apple crop will be large in many sections of the country this year, and prices will be likely to rule low—for the first part of the winter, at least. Much fruit will undoubtedly be stored in the hope of a better price later on. It is important, therefore, to adopt such a plan of storage as will keep the apples round and plump, and in possession of the best possible flavor. A cellar just moist enough to keep the

IDEAL APPLE TRAYS.

fruit from evaporating any of its own juices, and capable of being held at a low temperature—just above the chilling point—is an almost ideal place for the storing of apples. But the location is not all. Large quantities should not be heaped together, nor should apples be kept in barrels, bins or boxes where the air cannot circulate freely through them. Any tendency toward decay is sure to be augmented under such circumstances. The accompanying illustration is presented as affording an economical and exceedingly practical method of storing fruit. Trays with slat bottoms, each three feet square, are supported, one above another, upon brackets that are nailed to pieces of upright studding. A succession of this studding with brackets can extend along the whole side of the cellar, or upon two sides, if desired. The trays can be made as deep as desired, and the fruit can be heaped up a little. In this way but a small quantity of fruit is kept in a mass, and the air can circulate about each and every apple. Each tray can be removed to a table if it is desired to look the fruit over for the detection of incipient decay, or when getting ready to pack for market. Such trays will last for a score of years, and can easily be made in the home workshop on rainy days. —New York Tribune.

SWEET POTATOES.

In this I include, says J. M. Rice, of Oklahoma, the sugary, juicy varieties grown in the South, which are perhaps more properly designated yams, and I shall more especially refer to the methods of raising in the drier Southwest.

The people of the North have an objection, or, perhaps, as with myself, it was only a prejudice, against the sugary, juicy varieties. For myself and family, after becoming accustomed to them, we very much prefer them, but this is, of course, a matter of taste, for both are good.

Our plan for a dry country is to have the ground deeply plowed in the winter, and then, after a rain and before planting time, to throw four furrows together, but aiming to overturn all the soil, so it is in width but three furrows of our fourteen or sixteen inch plows. These are gone over with hoe and rake, leveling the top a little and smoothing the sides. A light rain is preferred planting time, but we do not always wait for it. The roots of the plants being well dampened, they are firmly set in the firm, loose soil, and a little basin, holding a half-pint, left around each plant. Water is poured in, filling the basin, and when soaked away dry soil is drawn around the plants. A little surface hand cultivation is given, then such cultivation with the horse cultivator between the ridges as is needed, and plowing once with a stirring plow, throwing the sides of the ridges to the centre, then back again. For part of our ground we thus last year filled the trenches with damp, chaffy straw, tramping it in well, and while all were good, those from the mulched ground were a little more even in size, showing that the dry spells had not affected the growth of a part.

Plants with heavy foliage and large roots do best in a dry climate, so the large sweet potatoes or yams succeed best here.

THE CROCUS AS A LAWN FLOWER.

Pretty in any place, the crocus is particularly attractive grown in the lawn when they do not appear as having been planted there but as just happening to come up by chance. Of course it would be useless to plant crocus in a lawn that is cut very early in a lawn mower; but farmers' yards are not generally kept in this way, ours isn't, and it is a splendid place on the south side of the house for these very early and cheery blossoms. The grass being left undisturbed until the usual time to make hay, the crocuses have a chance to grow their leaves and ripen the bulbs, so they go on and do well for many years.

These bulbs can be planted any time in the fall before the ground is frozen hard, but the earlier this work is done the better, as then the bulbs have a

chance to grow some roots before being frozen in for the winter. Putting them directly under the sod, as is often advised, I have never found very successful. I prefer to cut small holes into the turf with a sharp trowel, a little larger than the crocus bulb and about three inches deep, put in the bulb and fill up the hole with some good garden soil. Sometimes a bigger piece is made and several bulbs set out, leaving a little space between each bulb, but the single planting is best usually, I think. A well-grown bulb will have eight or ten blossoms and make a fine bit of color in the grass just beginning to grow green.

When the dead grass is very long in the spring, the crocus is cut out and the grass is pulled off, taking pains not to tread on the points of the crocuses coming up. The next spring after planting, the little holes made in the grass will show somewhat but very soon fill up, they look bigger than they are, in the winter. If the lawn is kept nicely mown, crocus in the sod are due to the bloom of the first spring after planting, but very sparingly after that. Cutting off the green leaves injures them; they are, however, well worth putting out each year. —American Agriculturist.

FERTILIZERS.

The greatest saving on the farm is in the ability to buy fertilizers that are best adapted to the soil. No two farms are alike, and for that reason no formula can be placed before farmers that will prove satisfactory to all. As the majority of farmers know but little of chemistry, it is difficult to explain the action of chemicals in the soils, and their relations to the growth of plants. It has been but a short period since the discovery was made that the changes in the soil were due to the action of billions of bacteria, and that they are of various kinds, operating under certain conditions which best conducted to their efficiency as natural agents for converting the inert substances contained in the soils into plant foods, and that their work is best performed under the influence of sunlight, air and moisture according to the soil. It was not until the discovery of the action of bacteria, and that they are of various kinds, operating under certain conditions which best conducted to their efficiency as natural agents for converting the inert substances contained in the soils into plant foods, and that their work is best performed under the influence of sunlight, air and moisture according to the soil.

Experiments show that fertilizers abounding in nitrogen promote the growth of plants which have abundant and large foliage, giving that intense green tinge so noticeable in thrifty and healthy plants, but nitrogen must be reinforced by a proportionate supply of potash in soil. Fertilizers and plants which produce seeds in abundance require more phosphoric acid than that of potash, while root crops, such as turnips, potatoes, beets, carrots and parsnips are benefited by potash. It is important, however, for the farmer to know something of his soil, as it may contain an ample supply of potash or phosphoric acid, and such cases the farmer requires more nitrogen than mineral matter. All soils which are fertile contain substances which the farmer need not procure, and he can effect a saving by using only such as his soil may require. No nitrogen is needed if the land has been in clover, but the soil will be benefited by applications of phosphoric acid.

The fall is the season when lime can be most profitably used, and in proportion to its cost it gives better results on most farms than any other substance. It should always be used where a crop or soil is turned under, as it not only contains within itself an important substance utilized by plants, but also in effecting certain chemical changes in the soil by plant food is liberated from the hard substances which otherwise could not be rendered soluble. Lime has a tendency to go downward, and hence it is only necessary to broadcast it on the surface of the soil. It has been acknowledged by scientists and experimenters that when lime has been used and assisted by manure and fertilizers the soil has given satisfactory results with all kinds of crops, dug probably to an alkaline condition of the soil being more favorable to the work of the bacteria in changing the substances existing in the soil into plant food.

In applying fertilizers in the fall, however, the farmer should be careful not to use too much, as the soil should be reserved for the action of the bacteria in the spring. —Farmers' Friend.

Eat Apples Before Retiring.

Everybody ought to know that the very best thing he can do is to eat apples just before going to bed. Of apple has remarkably efficacious medicinal properties. It is an excellent brain food, because it has more phosphoric acid in it than any other fruit. It excites the action of the liver, promotes sound and healthy sleep, and thoroughly disinfects the mouth. It helps the kidney secretions and prevents calculous growths, while it relieves indigestion and is one of the best preventive known for diseases of the throat. No harm can come to you from eating apples before retiring for the night. —Bulletin of Pharmacy.